

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 11, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 13

Introduced by Assembly Member Pan

February 11, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 13—Relative to the 25th Annual State Scientist Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 13, as amended, Pan. 25th Annual State Scientist Day.

This measure would declare May 15, 2013, as the 25th Annual State Scientist Day, as a tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists who work on behalf of all the residents of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The state employs nearly 3,000 professional
2 scientists in over 30 state departments working in more than 230
3 scientific classifications; and
4 WHEREAS, State scientists hold graduate degrees in virtually
5 every scientific discipline, including nematology, virology,
6 seismology, epidemiology, toxicology, and many others; and
7 WHEREAS, State scientists are represented by the California
8 Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS), which is dedicated
9 to professionalism, independence, *and* responsible advocacy, ~~and~~
10 ~~ensuring that state scientists receive fair pay and benefits for their~~
11 ~~important work~~ *advocacy*; and

1 ~~WHEREAS, The Governor wrote in October 2007: “I value the~~
2 ~~dedication and work of the State’s scientists, and I am concerned~~
3 ~~that salaries for this group may have fallen behind those of~~
4 ~~comparable workers” and that he wants to ensure “that the State~~
5 ~~is moving in the direction of achieving fair and equitable~~
6 ~~compensation for the scientists”; and~~

7 WHEREAS, The work of state scientists protects the public
8 from life-threatening diseases, safeguards our wildlife and abundant
9 natural resources, and protects our air and water from toxic waste
10 and pollution; and

11 WHEREAS, State scientists are required to make critical
12 decisions every day based on rigorous scientific factfinding, and
13 these decisions ultimately impact the lives and property of all
14 Californians; and

15 ~~WHEREAS, If this state loses its scientific expertise, the state~~
16 ~~will go unarmed in the battles against greenhouse gas emissions,~~
17 ~~air pollution, and the overall protection of children’s health,~~
18 ~~according to a 2006 California Environmental Protection Agency~~
19 ~~report; and~~

20 WHEREAS, State scientists perform important work in the areas
21 of infectious disease prevention, oil spill prevention and cleanup,
22 public health drinking water monitoring, the protection of
23 agricultural crops, brownfield mitigation, chemical and radiological
24 disaster response, and much more; and

25 WHEREAS, CAPS cosponsors the Sacramento Regional Science
26 and Engineering Fair, one of California’s 14 regional science and
27 engineering fairs, serving hundreds of middle and high schools in
28 10 California counties; and

29 WHEREAS, State scientists host an annual State Scientist Day
30 at the State Capitol to increase public awareness and recognition
31 of the significant contributions made by scientists working in state
32 government while entertaining and educating over 3,500
33 elementary school students with fun, hands-on science exhibits;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, State Scientist Day has sparked an interest in
36 science for thousands of California schoolchildren, legislators,
37 state employees, and members of the public, who attend the special
38 event; now, therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
40 *thereof concurring, That May 15, 2013, shall be recognized as the*

1 25th Annual State Scientist Day, and that this day shall be a tribute
2 to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists who
3 work on behalf of all the residents of California; and be it further
4 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
5 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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